

Angelika Meyer-Szumilo
1090 TEVLIN ST
ALBANY CA 94706

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Via ECFS
Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: In the Matter of Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to
47 U.S.C. Section 160(c); WC Docket No. 18-141; Category 1**

Dear FCC,

I strongly urge that USTelecom's request to dismantle key components of the 1996 Telecommunications Act NOT be granted for these reasons:

1. If the section 251(c)(3) rule requiring lines to be available to competitors is dropped, this would drive two local companies (Sonic and LMI) in my area out of business that offer lower prices and better service for residential customers than AT&T and Verizon.
2. The argument that there is effectively no remaining competition in the residential marketplace is blatantly wrong - this competition does exist. In the East Bay, numerous residential customers use Sonic and LMI.
- 3 My family has switched from AT&T to Sonic because AT&T's price was more than double what we pay now, and with Sonic we are getting much better service (you get to talk to a human when you contact customer service, and if there are any issues they will fix it right away). As customers, we want to have a choice.
4. USTelecom is trying to get the FCC to remove AT&T and Verizon's competition, instead of letting customers pick their provider. Without competition, prices in this market would go up.

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